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1. Response to Restriction Requirement

TRW Docket No. 36-0032

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TRW Docket No. 36-0032

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

R. Coronel, et al.

Serial No. 09/618,708

Filed: June 15, 2001

For: LARGE MULTI-FUNCTION INTEGRATED
CIRCUIT DEVICE

Group Art Unit: 2814

Examiner: Wille Douglas A.

#3/Election
2/7/02
18**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

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FEB 05 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In response to the Office action dated January 22, 2002, Applicant provisionally elects Group I (claims 1-5 and 37), but traverses the restriction requirement, in part, for the following reasons.

The claims of Groups I and II are said to be related to each other as combination and subcombination. However, claim 6 of Group II depends from claim 1 of Group I, and claims 7-18 of Group II depend from claim 6 and, therefore, also depend indirectly from claim 1. Similarly, claim 38 of group II depends from claim 37 of Group I. It is clear, therefore, that the claims of Group II are not drawn to a subcombination of the claims of Group I, since the claims of Group II incorporate every feature of the claims of Group I. The claims of Group II simply define one element of the claims of Group I with more specificity. Stated more specifically, a dependent claim cannot be a subcombination of the claim from which it depends. This principle is also apparent from the examples of combination and subcombination claims set forth in MPEP Section 806.05(c). Reconsideration of the restriction requirement as Groups I and II is respectfully requested.

Serial No. 09/618,708

TRW Docket No. 36-0032

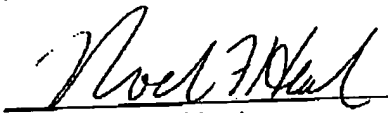
Similarly, the claims of Groups III and IV are said to be related to each other as combination and subcombination, but the claims of Group IV depend from the claims of Group III and are not, therefore, subcombination claims at all. Reconsideration of the restriction requirement as to Groups III and IV is respectfully requested.

Applicant does not traverse the restriction requirement as to Groups I and III. It is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn, or at the very least modified to include only a first group including the claims of Groups I and II and a second group including the claims of Groups III and IV.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: February 5, 2002

By



Noel F. Heal
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